

Message Text

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SUBJECT PARACEL ISLANDS: STATEMENT BY GVN FOREIGN MINISTER BAC

REF: SAIRON 0868

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JANUARY TWENTYFIRST STATEMENT BY FOREIGN
MINISTER VUONG VAN BAC TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS ON SUBJECT OF PARACEL
ISLANDS CONTROVERSY:

QUOTE STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM MR. VUONG VAN BAC TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS
ON THE VIOLATIONS OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM OVER THE ARCHIPELAGOS OF HONG SA (PARACELS) AND
TRUONG SA (SPRATLY) BY COMMUNIST CHINA:

EXCELLENCIES,

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE INVITED YOU TO GATHER HERE TODAY TO INFORM YOU OF
RECENT EVENTS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE AREA OF
THE HOANG SA (PARACELS) ARCHIPELAGO OFF THE CENTRAL COAST
OF VIET-NAM. THESE EVENTW HAVE CREATED AN EMERGENCY

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AITUATION SUSCEPTIBLE OF ENDANGERING PEACE AND STABILITY IN

SOUTH EAST ASIA AND THE WORLD. PARA THE HOANG SA (PARACELS) AND TRUONG SA (SPRATLY) ARCHIPELAGOS ARE A PART OF THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OUR COUNTRY OVER THESE ARCHIPELAGOS BASED ON HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL AND LEGAL GROUNDS AS WELL AS ON EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION AND POSSESSION IS AN UNDENIABLE FACT. PARA ON THE 11TH OF JANUARY 1974, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF RED CHINA SUDDENLY CLAIMED SOVEREIGNTY OVER THESE ARCHIPELAGOS. OUR MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IMMEDIATELY REJECTED THOSE UNFOUNDED PRETENSIONS. PARA FROM THEN ON, COMMUNIST CHINA CHOSE TO USE FORCE TO SEIZE THAT PORTION OF OUR NATIONAL TERRITORY, IT SENT MEN AND WARSHIPS INTO THE AREA OF THE ISLANDS OF CAM TUYEN (ROBERT), QUANG HOA (DUNCAN) AND DUY MONG (DRUMOND) OF THE HOANG SA (PARACELS) ARCHIPELAGO, AND LANDED TROOPS ON THESE ISLANDS. PARA ON JANUARY 16, 1974, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ISSUED A STATEMENT TO DENOUNCE THESE UNLAWFUL ACTS. PARA IN THE MEANTIME, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS, NAVAL UNITS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM INSTRUCTED THOSE MEN AND SHIPS VIOLATING THE LAND AND SEA TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM TO LEAVE THE AREA. PARA THE RED CHINESE AUTHORITIES NOT ONLY REFUSED TO PUT AN END TO THEIR UNLAWFUL INCURSIONS BUT ALSO SENT IN ADDITIONAL REINFORCEMENTS IN TROOPS AND WARSHIPS. THEY OPENED FIRE ON THE TROOPS AND NAVAL UNITS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM, CAUSING CASUALTIES AND MATERIAL DAMAGES. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE ON THE 19TH OF JANUARY ALERTING WORLD PUBLIC OPINION ON THESE SERIOUS ACTS OF HOSTILITY. PARA ON THE 20TH OF JANUARY 1974, THE RED CHINESE AUTHORITIES ESCALATED FURTHER IN THE USE OF FORCE AGAINST AN INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN COUNTRY. THEY SENT THEIR WARPLANES TO BOMB THREE ISLANDS - CAM TUYEN (ROBERT) VINH LAC (MONEY) AND HOANG SA (PATTLE) WHERE UNITS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM WERE STATIONING, AND ALSO LANDED THEIR TROOPS WITH THE AIM OF CAPTURING THESE ISLANDS. PARA COMMUNIST CHINA IS THEREFORE OPENLY USING FORCE TO INVADE A PORTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM'S TERRITORY IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT OF JANUARY 27, 1973 WHICH IT PLEDGED TO RESPECT AND OF THE FINAL UNCLASSIFIED

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ACT OF MARCH 2, 1973 OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM TO WHICH IT IS A SIGNATORY. PARA THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM SHALL NOT YIELD TO SUCH BRAZEN ACTS OF AGGRESSION. THEY ARE DETERMINED TO SAFEGUARD THEIR NATIONAL TERRITORY. PARA I KINDLY REQUEST YOU TO REPORT TO YOUR GOVERNMENTS ON THIS GRAVE SITUATION. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ALSO WISHES THAT YOUR GOVERNMENTS WOULD ADOPT AN APPROPRIATE ATTITUDE AND TAKE

APPROPRIATE ACTION IN VIEW OF THOSE ACTS COMMITTED RECENTLY
BY THE COMMUNIST CHINESE AUTHORITIES IN THE HOANG SA (PARACELS)
ARCHIPELAGO, IN COMPLETE DISREGARD FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW AND
THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OTHER NATIONS. PARA THANK YOU. UNQUOTE
MARTIN

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